

## Israelis attacked in 'safe' areas

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — Commandos fired at Israeli soldiers in South Lebanon twice Saturday in areas where Israeli troops are usually considered "safe" from attack. The military command said an Israeli soldier was wounded when commandos opened fire at a position in the village of Tebnit, just west of the village of Marjayoun which houses the headquarters of the Israeli-allied forces of the late Major Saad Haddad. The military said the assailants also threw a grenade and the Israeli fired back. Later in the day, a military spokesman said gunmen shot light arms and a rocket-propelled grenade at an Israeli patrol in the village of Jouaiya, 15 kilometres north of the Israeli border in a sector patrolled by the United Nations peacekeepers.

# Jordan Times

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## Iraq supports OIC resolutions

BAGHDAD (A.P.) — Iraq declared support Saturday to resolutions by the fourth Islamic summit conference calling for a cease-fire to the 40-month-old Iran-Iraq war and the return of Egypt to the Islamic fold. The declaration was issued following a joint meeting of the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) and the ruling Arab Socialist Baath Party's regional command. The meeting, under President Saddam Hussein, "positively valued" the summit's resolution of the Iran-Iraq war and on Egypt's return to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), the declaration said. On Friday, one day after the OIC decision, President Hussein telephoned Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The two leaders exchanged views on the OIC decision.

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## Australian minister to visit Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs Bill Hayden will pay an official visit to Jordan from Feb. 1 to Feb. 4, according to Australian embassy sources here. Mr. Hayden, who will be on a tour of the region, is expected to hold talks with Jordanian officials on issues of mutual concern.

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## Arafat in Tunis

TUNIS (R) — Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), returned to Tunis from Rabat Saturday after talks Friday night with King Hassan of Morocco, the Palestinian news agency WAFA reported. It said the discussions focused on the just-concluded Islamic summit conference in Casablanca and preparations for an Arab League summit in Saudi Arabia this March.

## MNF will stay, says Salem

PARIS (R) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem said Saturday that the Multi-National Force (MNF) was resolved to remain in the Beirut area until all foreign forces had left his country. Mr. Salem was speaking to reporters following two hours of talks with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson, during which he said there had been complete agreement on all vital issues concerning Lebanon. Asked about the future of the four-nation MNF, he said: "There is no change in their position. It is the same."

## French general arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (A.P.) — General Genaud Lacaze, chief of staff of the French armed forces, arrived here Saturday on a six-day visit, the Middle East News Agency reported. French supplied Mirage 2000 fighters are scheduled to go into service with the Egyptian armed forces by the end of 1984. In addition, Egypt assembles French Gazelle helicopters, and manufactures 10 per cent of the Franco-German Alphajet.

## Oslo arrests 'Soviet spy'

OSLO (R) — A Norwegian Foreign Ministry official has been arrested on charges of spying, the attorney general said Saturday in a statement. Arne Treholt, 41, was detained at Oslo's Fornebu airport Friday on his way to a meeting abroad with the Soviet state security committee, the KGB, the statement said.

## Pakistan to increase Islamic courts

ISLAMABAD (R) — Every police district in Pakistan is to have an Islamic court, the country's chief Islamic judge said in an interview published Saturday. Justice Aftab Hussain, chairman of the Federal Shariat (Islamic) court, told the Islamabad daily the Muslim that the main purpose of Islamic or Qazi courts would be to decide cases as quickly as possible.

# Shells hit Baabda palace as Gemayel talks of peace

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Artillery shells fired by Syrian-backed Druze gunners from Lebanon's Shouf mountains crashed into the presidential palace Saturday as President Amin Gemayel was talking to a student delegation about peace and national unity.

Official sources said three shells exploded inside the palace compound, causing considerable damage, and more than 100 landed just outside the Lebanese army fought heavy artillery battles with Druze militiamen for a second day.

State-run Beirut Radio said two army corporals were killed in Saturday's shelling and several civilians were wounded in mainly Christian east Beirut and nearby towns. Falangist radio put the military toll at three.

Shells crashed around the residence of United States Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew 500 metres from the presidential palace in Baabda, about eight kilometres from Beirut city centre. A Druze spokesman said the army had intensified its attacks Saturday and was using tanks as well as rockets and artillery.

Official sources said Mr. Gemayel was at least 50 metres away when a shell slammed into the large, stone-built palace, blowing out windows in several reception rooms and offices.

But the president continued his audience in the first-floor conference hall of the central wing, untroubled by the thunderous impact of the shells, a spokesman said.

Mr. Gemayel was addressing a student delegation on the importance of closing ranks and making extra efforts to unify the nation, student sources said. The president told them he had great faith in the future of Lebanon despite all difficulties.

Student spokesman Jamal Fayyad said: "We were talking with him about peace despite the tense atmosphere, and the meeting took place amid the sound of explosions."

Ten shells exploded near the government-run hospital at Baabda, causing damage but no injuries, a hospital spokesman said.

## Druze warning

The mainly-Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) warned Friday night that its militia would shell government buildings, even at the risk of civilian casualties, if

army and Falangist gunners continued to shell Druze areas.

Saturday's attack came during a four-hour duel with artillery and multiple rocket launchers between the Lebanese army and Druze militiamen. Police said the salvo came from the Druze-controlled Alek bluff overlooking the U.S. Marine base at Beirut's international airport.

U.S. F-14 Tomcat jets scrambled off aircraft carriers in Lebanese waters to stage low reconnaissance runs over Beirut and the neighbouring hills shortly after the shelling tapered off, the state radio said.

In day-long exchanges Friday 10 people in Druze towns and villages were killed, a Druze spokesman said, and at least 35 people were wounded in Druze and east Beirut.

The PSP told Reuters by telephone Saturday that mainly Muslim west Beirut would not be shelled because no artillery emplacements there were being used to attack Druze positions.

"We are not against any party of Lebanese except those who are hostile towards us," the PSP statement said.

"West Beirut is the area which sides with us in our national battle. We are concerned about its security and safety and the safety of all those living in it."

The PSP said it was issuing the

statement to refute right-wing radio reports that it had threatened to bombard targets in the commercial centre of west Beirut.

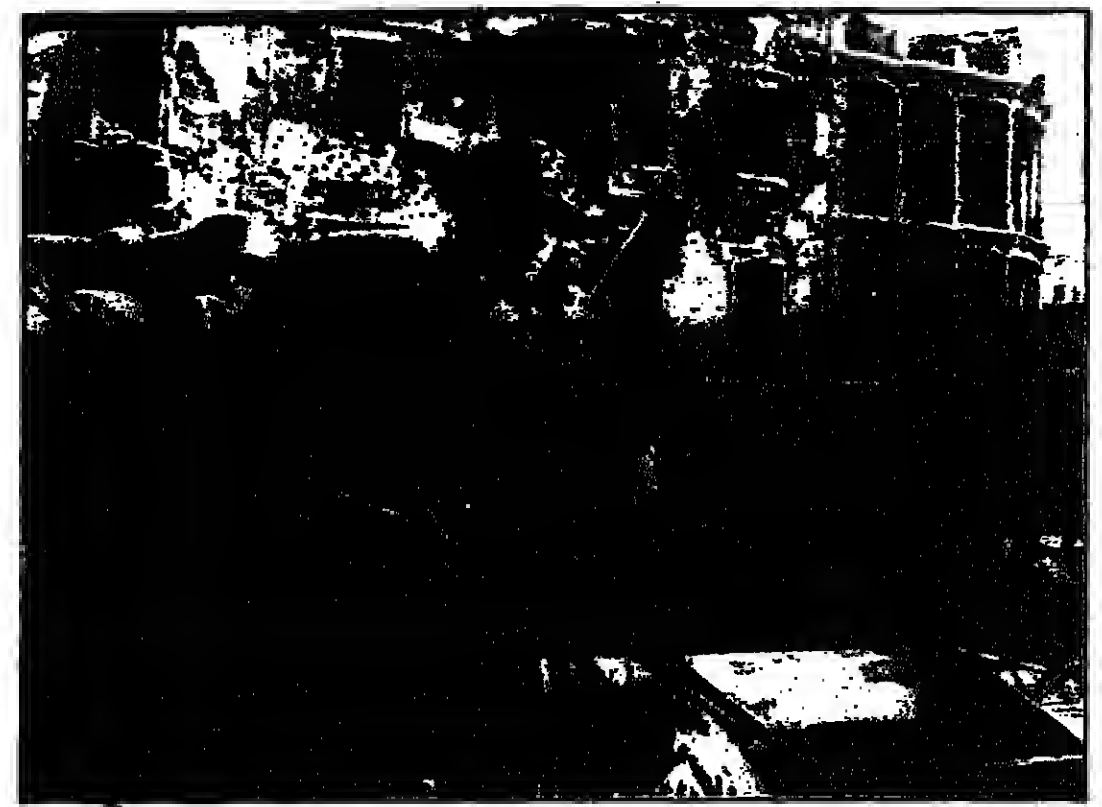
As the shelling of east Beirut intensified Saturday, shopkeepers closed their shutters, the streets emptied of traffic, and military authorities advised people to take shelter.

Radio stations blared warnings to residents to remain indoors and motorists to stay off highways when the new round of shelling broke out at mid-morning Saturday. Hundreds of families huddled in basements and bomb shelters, and streets were deserted in east Beirut and suburban Baabda, Hadath, Fayadieh and Jamhour.

It was the first time the presidential palace was hit directly since Lebanon's latest civil war last September that pitted the army and the predominantly Christian rightist militiamen of the Falange Party against Druze and Shiite Muslim militias seeking a greater share of power for their communities.

A government statement said Saturday's attack was designed to frustrate Mr. Gemayel's efforts to enforce a Saudi-mediated security plan to disengage the warring factions and establish a durable ceasefire.

Beirut streets become dangerous for foreigners, page 3



Two soldiers of the French contingent in the Multi-National Force (MNF) in Beirut keep watch at the Lebanese capital's 'green line' dividing the eastern and western sectors (A.P. wirephoto)

# Junblatt says latest fighting will continue until Gemayel resigns

By Afifah A. Kaloti  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Mr. Walid Junblatt, leader of Lebanon's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), Saturday called on President Amin Gemayel to resign or otherwise face the "complete destruction of Lebanon."

In an interview with the Jordan Times, the Lebanese opposition leader said: "The government of Gemayel has not honoured the resolutions of the Geneva conference on reconciliation in Lebanon. It is insisting on carrying out the Falangist policy of dominating every aspect of Lebanese life. And it is doing this with the direct help of the U.S."

"We will not stop fighting this time unless and until the Gemayel government resigns, even if that means the complete destruction of Lebanon."

Mr. Junblatt said that President Gemayel's government and Lebanon's opposition parties, of which he is leader, have reached a deadlock situation. "Gemayel failed in his mission after the Geneva conference, and renewed fighting against us instead of thinking of a serious political reconciliation," he said, adding that Mr. Gemayel was charged by the Geneva conference to abrogate the Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal agreement of May 17, 1983, but until now "there was no sign of him doing so."

"Gemayel seems unable to ever reach a comprehensive solution that will secure the full rights of all

sectors of the Lebanese community," Mr. Junblatt said. "There can be no talk of stopping the latest round of fighting, for our position now is one of all-out challenge to the Lebanese government, and until a real and acceptable political settlement to the crisis of Lebanon is found the fighting will not stop."

The PSP leader's call on President Gemayel to resign came amid reports of heavy fighting between the predominantly Druze PSP forces on the one hand, and the Lebanese army and the Falangist Party militias in the hills overlooking Beirut on the other. Previously Mr. Junblatt maintained that his aim was not to topple the Lebanese president.

Reports of the heavy fighting in Lebanon Saturday also said that the forces of Mr. Junblatt shelled President Gemayel's palace in Baabda, east of Beirut.

Mr. Junblatt accused the Lebanese army and militias of the predominantly Maronite Falangist Party of bombarding civilian villages in the Shouf mountains and of waging an "annihilation war" against its inhabitants.

"Gemayel thinks that by shelling civilian areas he would be able to frighten their inhabitants and could force them to leave. But they will never be frightened because civilians living there (the Shouf mountains) have taken the necessary precautions, including shelters and we will not surrender. It has been our land for thousands of years," Mr. Junblatt said.

## 'We are able to resist'

Referring to U.S. assistance to the Lebanese army, Mr. Junblatt said: "No matter how much arms and ammunition the U.S. gives that army, we are able to resist them at all times." He contended that the Lebanese army is merely to serve the Falangist's ambitions in the country.

"We frequently explained in the U.S. administration that this government is an oppressive one and would not ever preserve the sovereignty of the Lebanese state, but in vain," Mr. Junblatt said.

## 'Falangists' killed Kerr

In reply to a question on an accusation he made in Damascus last week that the Falangists were behind the assassination of the president of the American University of Beirut (AUB), Dr. Malcolm Kerr, Mr. Junblatt said: "The Falangists want to dominate the AUB by having their own people in the university's top positions as well as by incorporating their own educational curriculum into the system."

"But since Mr. Kerr was a good friend of the Arabs and on several occasions supported the Palestinian cause, to which the Falangists are opposed, the removal of Dr. Kerr would serve a double purpose for the Falangists."

On his recent visit to Moscow, he said the trip had nothing to do with the current situation in Lebanon and that it represented a continuation of an "old friendship" between his party and the Soviet Union.

## 'Obeidat and Abu Jihad discuss Jordan-PLO talks

By Lami K. Andoni  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat received in his office Saturday the deputy military commander of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), who congratulated him on his appointment.

Later, Mr. Wazir told the Jordan Times that views on resumption of PLO-Jordan talks on joint political moves in Middle East peace efforts were discussed during the meeting. He added that both sides expressed the wish to resume the dialogue with no preconditions set by either party concerning the outcome.

"The PLO-Jordan talks will focus on finding a common ground that can constitute a platform for future joint political moves," Mr.

Wazir said. "However, it was agreed that any joint platform reached would be oriented towards Arab approval, not necessarily by all Arab states, and would also have an international dimension to it," he said.

Talks between the PLO and Jordan reached a deadlock last April when they were abandoned due to failure to reach an agreement. But since then both sides have expressed readiness to resume the talks and His Majesty King Hussein has extended an official invitation to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to come to Jordan and resume the talks.

Mr. Arafat, who has announced his intention to visit Jordan to resume the talks, is expected here soon after completing a pre-scheduled tour of several West African states that will start Tuesday.

## King thanks the nation

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday expressed his deep appreciation to the Jordanian people, Arabs and friends everywhere for their concern over his health during his recent illness.

"I take pride in belonging to this nation and I feel overwhelmed with your noble feelings that contributed to my speedy recovery," the King said in a message addressed to the nation.

King Hussein said that "no challenges or obstacles whatsoever" will dissuade him from "pursuing the struggle for fulfilling the nation's aspired goals."

Referring to the steadfast population on the West Bank, King Hussein said that "they will never be abandoned until they fully recover their holy places, their rights, their freedom and land."

"Abandoning our people in the occupied territory is abandoning our duty and honour and all values in life," King Hussein said.



## Mubarak receives Hussein's message

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Saturday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein dealing with Arab issues and the impact of the Organisation of Islamic Conference's (OIC) decision to invite Egypt back.

The message was delivered to President Mubarak Saturday by Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, who attended the OIC summit in Casablanca, Morocco, and returned to Amman Friday.

Mr. Abu Odeh left for Cairo early Saturday and returned to Amman in the evening after delivering the message to Mr. Mubarak, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said in Amman.

The message follows consultations Friday night between

King Hussein and President Mubarak over the phone.

The King's message to the Egyptian leader came amid reports that a meeting was in the offing between Jordan, Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to consider a new approach to Middle East peace efforts.

Nabil Shaath, a senior aide to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, told Reuters the meeting would look into all Middle East peace initiatives and seek a compromise plan that would give a push to settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. He did not give a date for the meeting.

He said Mr. Arafat, who unexpectedly visited Egypt last month, was keen to involve Cairo

in any future talks on the Palestinian issue.

The New York Times Saturday quoted Osama Al Baz, senior political adviser to Mr. Mubarak, as saying that the meeting will take place in March.

The United States has been invited to join in the discussions but Israel has not, according to Mr. Baz, the newspaper said.

"Since the time is not right for Israel to join us, the United States should act as a go-between," Mr. Baz said.

Mr. Baz made the statements one day after the Islamic summit invited Egypt to rejoin the group from which it was suspended following its 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel.

## Egyptian leader lauds OIC decision

CAIRO (A.P.) — President Hosni Mubarak has lauded as historic the Islamic summit conference resolutions, but stopped short of endorsing the conference's decision to readmit Egypt to the 45-member Islamic Organisation.

Mr. Mubarak's first publicised comment on the outcome of the Casablanca, Morocco, summit, which ended Thursday, came in an exchange of telegrams with Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq, one of the staunchest defenders of Egypt's reinstatement in the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

The exchange during the Pakistani leader's flight over Egypt on the way home from the summit was released by the presidency.

In his telegram to Mr. Mubarak, Gen. Zia said he was "particularly happy" with the summit resolution restoring Egypt to the OIC.

"I would like to commend the historic resolutions and decisions adopted by the Islamic summit conference at Casablanca for the sake of the unity and solidarity of the Muslim World in confronting the dangers surrounding it," Mr. Mubarak said in reply.

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Hassan outlines Jordanian role in OIC summit, page 3

# Dutch envoy urges European efforts towards securing Palestinian rights

By Afifah A. Kaloti  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior Dutch parliamentary delegation currently visiting Jordan as a part of regional tour said: "The aim of our tour is to get first-hand information on the Middle East situation and the Palestinian issue."

Speaking in an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. De Vries added that Jordan, "being one of the crucial countries in the area, the Dutch parliament's main aim of its (the delegation's) visit to the country is to meet senior Jordanian officials and hear their views on and insights to the current situation as well as discussing possible solutions to the Middle East conflict."

"We are determined to visit Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan, for they are useful evidence of a tragic history," Mr. De Vries said.

He asserted that Europe should

said it is time for Europe "to use its influence on Israel to go to the negotiating table, especially that the moderate line has won in the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC)."

Mr. De Vries was referring to a decision last week by the OIC to readmit Egypt, which was expelled from the organisation after Cairo signed a separate peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

Mr. De Vries also said that the parliamentary association should "thoroughly study the Arab perspective and intensify discussions with the Arabs."

Referring to Holland's attitude towards Israel, Mr. De Vries said that Holland "has always recognised Israel's national identity and its right to exist, but Israel has also to understand that the Palestinians also have the right to exist, and Europe should engage itself to establish their rights, for no peace could be established in the region unless the rights of the Palestinian people are secured."

"We are determined to visit Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan, for they are useful evidence of a tragic history," Mr. De Vries said.

He asserted that Europe should

"really work" to stop Israel from building settlements in the occupied territories.

Holland, he added, "never accepted Israel's annexation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip" and called for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories as well as from South Lebanon.

Mr. De Vries said that the U.S. should realise that Israel's security will never be achieved through military means. "The U.S. has to convince Israel that in the long run its security cannot be secured by military means," he said.

Mr. De Vries said that he will inform the Dutch government that "there is little time left for a real European action to achieve a peaceful solution to the Middle East conflict. The only option left for Israel, for its own benefit, is to join negotiation for the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people, because political means is the only way to its security."

The six-member Dutch parliamentary delegation, which arrived in Amman Friday, leaves Jordan Sunday.

Dutch delegation meets 'Obeidat, page 3

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# Reagan considering strikes against kamikaze attackers

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan is considering a pre-emptive strike against any aircraft which may be armed for kamikaze attacks on U.S. ships off the coast of Lebanon, senior administration officials said Friday night.

They said light planes and perhaps helicopters could strike at the Sixth Fleet, including the battleship New Jersey.

The officials also expressed concern about apparent "kamikaze-type" threats by terrorists using aircraft against U.S. naval vessels in the Gulf and Indian Ocean areas.

The United States "may launch a pre-emptive strike against aircraft believed to be being made ready by terrorists for such attacks on American warships," they said. "So far, all U.S. combat in Lebanon has been in retaliation for an attack. The New Jersey's 16-inch guns have been used to bombard positions in the mountains east of Beirut Airport when U.S. Marines stationed there as part of a multinational force have come under fire."

U.S. fighter planes also carried out a bombing mission against Syrian positions in Lebanon on Dec. 4 after American reconnaissance flights were fired on.

About 1,600 U.S. Marines are serving in Lebanon alongside French, British and Italian troops.

A suicide truck bombing killed 241 American servicemen at Beirut Airport headquarters on Oct. 23 and the Reagan administration has since tightened security around the Marines.

ABC Television News Friday night quoted intelligence sources

as saying Islamic fundamentalists had obtained light planes and perhaps helicopters.

These recently had been moved closer to their targets but had not yet been "married-up" with their Iranian-trained pilots, the report said. Intelligence sources said the planes were not on Syrian territory although Damascus was believed to have acquiesced in training of the pilots by Iran, according to ABC.

Israeli State Television reported Friday U.S. navy units off Lebanon were on high alert, fearing a kamikaze-style attack. The Israeli report said U.S. planes were closely observing all flights entering or leaving Israeli and Lebanese air space.

Senior American officials said all U.S. navy units in the Lebanon, Gulf and Indian Ocean areas were on a high alert.

## Senator visits Beirut

BEIRUT (A.P.) — U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan said after a Saturday tour of the U.S. Marine base in Beirut that "No one should underestimate the danger these Marines face."

The New York Democrat, who is the vice chairman of the Senate's Select Committee on Intelligence, was in Beirut to look at

the intelligence network that is used to gather and analyse information for the Marine contingent.

"Questions have been raised about the intelligence network... and I wanted to see it" to prepare a report for the committee, he said.

A Pentagon investigation following the Oct. 23 truck bomb attack that killed 241 American servicemen in Beirut was critical of both the security at the base and the intelligence support the Marines were receiving.

While declining to discuss specifics, Sen. Moynihan said of the Marines here that "they are up against a set of threats, half of which they can't define by the nature of the terrorism, some of which you couldn't prevent no matter how much you prepared, some of which you clearly can prevent and are being prevented."

He noted that security at the base at Beirut International Airport "is comparably better" than it was prior to the October attack. "The experience is better, too," he added. "But no one should underestimate the danger these men are in."

Sen. Moynihan said that he had met with government officials in Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Israel before his trip to Lebanon but that he had no plans to talk with government officials here.

Before coming ashore at the Marine base, Sen. Moynihan had toured the aircraft carrier USS Independence and the amphibious assault ship USS Guam off the Lebanese coast.

He was scheduled to travel to the battleship USS New Jersey, also off the coast, before returning to the United States.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan listens to Mr. Izzat Ibrahim, vice-president of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, during informal talks they had during the fourth Islamic summit

which concluded Thursday at Casablanca, Morocco (Hassan outlines Jordanian contribution to OIC summit, page 3)

## Beirut streets becoming dangerous for American, French diplomats

By Andrew Tarnowski  
Reuters

BEIRUT (R) — The killing of the president of the American University of Beirut is the latest in a sudden upsurge of attacks on individual foreigners that has turned West Beirut into an assassins' stalking ground.

Since the New Year West Beirut's war-scarred streets have grown increasingly dangerous for foreign diplomats, particularly Americans and French.

The individual attacks appear to mark the opening of a new campaign by Muslim militants to force a withdrawal of the Beirut Multinational Force.

Since Jan. 3, three people linked to the French embassy have narrowly escaped death and a Saudi Arabian diplomat was abducted by gunmen 24 hours before American University President Malcolm Kerr was shot.

The 52-year-old professor, shot on campus by men with silenced pistols, was the first foreign resident with neither diplomatic, political nor military links to his government to be killed.

His death signalled an apparent escalation of such hit-and-run attacks to include any prominent French or American nationals in Beirut.

Western sources in the Lebanese capital say they believe the attacks are linked and are the latest tactic of Muslim fundamentalists trying to force out the Multinational troops.

Other observers think the militants may be simply manoeuvring into position to claim the credit when the inevitable pullout of the force occurs — thus gaining a new following for their radical cause.

The Shiite Muslim fundamentalist group "Islamic Jihad" (holy war), which said it killed Mr. Kerr and was also holding Saudi Consul Hussein Farash in the same group that has claimed responsibility for all major attacks on the Multinational Force during the past year. These include a string of truck bombings and the destruction of the U.S. embassy in Beirut last April.

An anonymous Arabi-speaking caller claiming to represent the group said: "We promise you that no American or Frenchman will remain on this soil."

"We will not cease these methods and we will pursue them [of the Americans and the French] Lebanese and Arab agents, whether they are leaders, politicians or military men."

Western sources say the U.S. embassy, now partly located at the British embassy, has received warnings from intelligence sources that American diplomats might also be the targets of assassination attempts.

The sources date the start of the new tactics to late December when a U.S. Marine guarding the American embassy on the Beirut seafloor was wounded in the hand by a shot from a silenced weapon.

Since then, several attacks on non-American diplomatic per-

sonnel have borne similar trademarks — gunmen with silenced pistols, usually riding motorcycles, have fired at intended victims emerging from their homes or driving in embassy cars through West Beirut.

The wife of the French cultural attache and an Egyptian diplomat in a French embassy car have been wounded in broad daylight.

The attacks have coincided with tighter security measures by U.S. and French troops since the twin suicide truck bombings last October that killed 241 U.S. servicemen and 58 French paratroopers.

The U.S. Marines around Beirut Airport are now bunkered down behind earthworks and concrete barricades. Many of the men live permanently underground in sandbagged bunkers.

Although French troops still man checkpoints in West Beirut, security at their fortified command posts makes it difficult for attackers to approach within 50 metres.

But along with the assassination campaign there has been an upsurge of almost nightly hit-and-run attacks on French posts by gunmen firing automatic weapons and throwing grenades.

The switch from heavy attacks on troop concentrations to hit-and-run strikes at vulnerable points in West Beirut was underlined on Jan. 8.

On that day a U.S. Marine was killed in a Lebanese army seafloor compound by gunmen

## Camp David is dead for Egypt, King Hassan says

CASABLANCA (A.P.) — Morocco's King Hassan II on Friday quoted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak as saying that "for Egypt, Camp David is dead."

That attitude to the 1978 peace agreement between Egypt and Israel made it possible to foresee an end to the suspension of Egypt from membership of the 45-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), the Moroccan leader told a press conference in his palace.

A stormy summit conference of the OIC ended late Thursday with a majority voting to reinstate Egypt, suspended in 1981 because of the agreement with Israel.

Egypt notified the organisation Friday it would receive a four-member delegation to discuss its return to the Islamic family of nations.

King Hassan said he was quoting Mr. Mubarak when he said that Egypt had "obtained the fruits" of the Camp David agreements, having "recovered its lands and its oil" in the formerly Israeli-occupied Sinai, and that consequently "the substance of Camp David has been emptied."

King Hassan said that delegation appointed by the summit would be led by Guinea's President Ahmed Sekou Toure and

include the foreign ministers of Pakistan and Iraq, and OIC Secretary-General Habib Chami. He did not announce his schedule.

King Hassan said Mr. Mubarak made the remarks to him when the two met in New York last fall in the U.S. General Assembly meeting.

"The committee's forthcoming discussions in Cairo will determine whether the Egyptian and Islamic viewpoints can be reconciled," King Hassan said. "The committee will report back to me, and if the results are positive, I would not rule out convening a special meeting of the Islamic conference to take action on the matter."

The summit called on Egypt to endorse "the principles, rules and decisions" of the Islamic movement, but did not publicly elaborate on this demand. There were conflicting interpretations of whether Egypt would be required to issue an explicit repudiation of the Camp David agreements as the price for returning to the Islamic group.

Mr. Mubarak has stated that he would not accept such a demand, but he notified the summit that he was willing to receive Mr. Sekou Toure's committee in Cairo to discuss Egypt's readmission.

## S. Arabia seeks help to combat oil pollution

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (A.P.) — Norwegian Minister of Transport and Trade Sverre Holmboe began talks Saturday to extend Oslo's expertise and technology to Saudi Arabia to help the oil-rich kingdom combat environmental pollution from wide-scale extraction operations.

Mr. Holmboe arrived in this Saudi capital city late Friday at the invitation of the general manager of Saudi Ports Authority, Fayez Badr.

Mr. Badr told the Associated Press that Norway's assistance was

called upon in particular because of its experience in the joint oil operations with the United Kingdom in the North Sea.

"The coasts of the Arabian Gulf and the Red Sea are similar to those of Norway's coasts where length and width are concerned," Mr. Badr said.

He also said that the kingdom was planning to install the "most modern equipment for marine guidance" from Norway.

He had already visited Oslo and inspected such equipment last year, Mr. Badr added.

## 86 Iranian Communists sentenced to prison

BEIRUT (A.P.) — Iran's military tribunal sentenced 86 members of the defunct Tudeh Communist Party to prison sentences ranging from life to less than one year, the official Iranian News Agency IRNA said Saturday.

The sentences were the first announced in the trials that began in December and ended last Tuesday for members of the underground military cell of the outlawed party.

IRNA has said in the past that most of the defendants were charged with disobeying Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's order against belonging to a political party while a member of the military.

It said Saturday that Hojatoleslam Mohammad Reyschahi, the Islamic judge of the military, sentenced six defendants to life

imprisonment. Mr. Reyschahi said four persons had been freed for committing minor offenses and repenting to the tribunal, IRNA said. It also said sentences had not yet been decided for 13 persons.

Mr. Reyschahi was quoted as saying the charges against the defendants were in four categories — "attempts to overthrow the Islamic Republic, espionage, gathering and hiding weapons, and violating the decree against membership of military men in political parties."

The only name of any defendant mentioned was that of former Navy Commander Bahrām Afzali, but the report did not say what sentence he received. It said several colonels were among the defendants.

## Kyprianou discusses trade with EC

BRUSSELS (R) — The Republic of Cyprus will do all it can to keep the newly-proclaimed Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus from strengthening its economic and political independence, Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou said Friday.

Mr. Kyprianou told reporters after talks with European Commission President Gaston Thorn that his own goal was to reunite

both parts of the island.

He said Mr. Thorn reiterated that Community policy was to grant preferential access to Cypriot goods only if these were accompanied by official trade documents from the Republic of Cyprus. This could help isolate Northern Cyprus economically and step up pressure on Turkish Cypriots to join the negotiating table for talks on reunification, he

added. Cyprus and the European Community are linked by a co-operation agreement ensuring duty-free access of most Cypriot industrial goods and farm produce.

Mr. Kyprianou said that a commission delegation would visit Cyprus before mid-February to look for ways to abolish remaining trade barriers.

## Turkey captures 20 Kurdish gang suspects

ISTANBUL, Turkey (A.P.) — Turkish martial law authorities in the southern city of Adana said Friday that 20 alleged members of a Kurdish separatist gang were captured in a series of raids in the area.

An announcement by the martial law command, based in the fourth-largest Turkish city, said those arrested will be charged with trying to revive the regional branch of the violent Kurdish Workers Party, popularly known as "Apocular."

The announcement did not give exact dates of what were described as "a series of operations" aimed

at wiping out the underground activities of the armed secessionist Kurdish band.

The announcement did not identify the suspects by name, adding that security forces found seven pistols and forged identity cards in their possession.

The Adana Martial Law Centre is responsible for six adjacent provinces with an estimated ethnic Kurdish population of 500,000.

The announcement said some of the suspects told military investigators they received "training in foreign countries."

The Kurdish Workers Party had waged an armed terror campaign

in remote parts of Turkey before the 1980 military takeover, killing more than 500 people in ambush attacks and snipings in southeastern provinces.

The group sought to establish a left-wing Kurdish state in predominantly Kurdish-inhabited areas of Turkey.

A nationwide crackdown on terrorism launched by the 1980 military regime grounded up 3,000 suspected militants.

Turkey's estimated 6 million Kurds, out of an overall population of 48 million, live in the poor provinces in the remote southeastern parts of Asia minor.

## Australian aide starts Mideast, Africa tour

CANBERRA (R) — Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden left Saturday at the start of a 25-day tour of the Middle East and Africa.

He said the main aim of the trip was to gather information for decision-making by the Labour government which came to power 14 months ago.

Australia has a peacekeeping force in Sinai and is seeking closer

links with African countries, particularly in the Indian Ocean region.

"The Indian Ocean is as important to Australia as the Pacific region — we forget that too often," Mr. Hayden told a news conference before his departure.

He goes first to Singapore, where he will stay overnight before going to Egypt on the first leg

of a tour which will also take him to Jordan, Israel, and Syria.

Mr. Hayden said he did not want to get his role in the Middle East out of proportion, stating he was conscious of the restraints on Australia compared to the superpowers.

In Africa, he will visit Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Mauritius.

## TV & RADIO

### JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL  
16:30 ..... Koran  
16:40 ..... Cartoons  
16:50 ..... Children's Programmes  
17:00 ..... Circus  
17:10 ..... Programme Review  
17:20 ..... Local Programme  
17:30 ..... News in Arabic  
17:40 ..... Arabic Series  
17:50 ..... Local Programme on Jordan  
18:00 ..... Arab Series  
18:10 ..... News Summary

### FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 ..... French Programme  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Best Seller: Little Gloria  
21:00 ..... Happy At Last  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:15 ..... Jane Eyre: Eps. 3

### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM  
(i partly on 95.80 KHz, SW)  
07:00 ..... Light Music  
07:30 ..... Newsdesk  
08:00 ..... Morning Show  
08:30 ..... News Summary  
09:00 ..... Morning Show  
10:00 ..... News Summary  
11:00 ..... News Summary  
12:00 ..... Pop Session  
12:30 ..... News Summary  
13:00 ..... News Bulletin  
14:00 ..... Instrumentals  
14:30 ..... Concert Hour  
15:00 ..... News Summary  
16:00 ..... Instrumentals  
16:30 ..... Old Favourites  
17:00 ..... Listeners' Choice  
18:00 ..... News Summary  
18:30 ..... Jazz Hour  
19:00 ..... Newsdesk  
20:00 ..... Date with a Star  
21:00 ..... Evening Show  
21:30 ..... Science Report  
21:55 ..... News Summary  
22:00 ..... Evening Show  
22:30 ..... News Summary  
23:00 ..... Evening Show  
23:30 ..... News Headlines

### BBC WORLD SERVICE

634, 720, 1413 KHz  
06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 The Bach Family  
06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Religious  
07:00 World News 07:05 British  
07:10 Press Review 07:15 Letterbox 07:30  
07:40 Short Takes 07:45 Letter from America  
07:50 Newsdesk 08:30 Jazz for the Asking  
09:00 World News 09:05 News  
09:10 About Britain 09:15 From Our Own  
09:20 Correspondent 09:30 English Hours  
09:40 Recording of the Week 10:00  
10:10 World News 10:05 Reflections 10:15  
10:20 The Pleasure's Yours 11:00 World News  
11:05 British Press Review 11:15 Science  
11:25 Classical Record Review 12:30  
12:40 Religious Service 13:00 World News  
13:05 News About Britain 13:15 Letter  
13:20 from America 13:25 Play of the Week  
13:30 World News 13:05 Commentary  
13:15 Good Books 13:30 The Painter of  
13:40 Signs 13:45 The Sandi Jones Request  
13:50 Show 14:00 The Tiger Trap 17:00 Radio  
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## Hassan outlines contribution of Islamic summit conference



AMMAN (J.T.) — The Islamic Summit in Casablanca made an objective assessment of the situation in the Islamic World and opened the door for Egypt's return to the Arab and Islamic nations' fold. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan was quoted as saying in a press statement published here Saturday.

He told the Arabic language daily newspaper, Sawt Al Shaab, that Asia and Africa had played a leading role in emphasising the priorities for joint Islamic action. Egypt carries significant weight on the African continent and can assume a leading role in solving complicated issues in the region particularly the issue of Jerusalem, the conference's symbol.

The Casablanca conference was characterised by its dynamic spirit and its speed in tackling chronic issues, and has paved the way for

political cooperation among Islamic nations to establish their identity world-wide, Prince Hassan said.

He continued by saying that the Islamic nations respect the stand of the superpowers but refuse the policy of polarisation while also refusing to leave to others the task of fighting their own wars.

This is because "such a stand is bound to cause further divisions in the Islamic Nation which should have the right both politically and geographically to have a say at a time when the superpowers are debating the future of the world's peace."

In the interview, Prince Hassan voiced his appreciation of King Hassan II of Morocco and the Moroccan people for their hospitality and their support which, he said, was a major factor in making the conference a success.

## 'Obeidat meets delegation of Dutch deputies, reviews bilateral relations

AMMAN (J.T.) — A six-member Dutch parliamentary delegation Saturday called on Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat and reviewed with him relations between Jordan and the Netherlands.

The delegation, which arrived here Friday on a visit expected to last several days, also extended to Mr. 'Obeidat their congratulations on his appointment to the post of premier.

The delegation, comprising two representatives of the Dutch Social Democratic Party, two from the Christian Democrats and two from the Liberal Party, is headed by Mr. Klaas G. de Vries. Later on in their tour they are scheduled to go around refugee camps and hold talks with other leading officials.

Before meeting the prime minister, the delegation members were received by Ahmad Al Lawzi, speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, who explained the Arab countries' drive to establish a just and com-

prehensive Middle East peace.

The Arabs have proved to the world, through the resolution they issued at the Fez summit, that they want to establish a comprehensive peace, he said.

We have also reaffirmed Europe's role in helping to achieve that peace in view of the strong links and common bond of interests that Europe has with the Arab Nation, Mr. Lawzi added at the meeting.

He said that Europe's peace, as well as that of the Arab World, will be disturbed if the Israeli occupation and Israel's expansionist policies are allowed to continue.

Mr. Lawzi spoke about Israel's drive to Judaize the Arab lands and evict the indigenous population from their homeland. He also voiced his appreciation to the delegation members for congratulating Jordan upon the restoration of parliamentary life, and stressed that parliamentary rule constitutes a cornerstone of the

country's political life.

The meeting was attended by Upper House Members Hazem Nuseibeh and Farah Abu Jaber.

The Dutch delegation was also received by Akef Al Fayed, speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, who stressed that Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, is keen to safeguard the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including the right to self-determination in Palestine.

Mr. Fayed also spoke about Israel's intransigent stand, its disregard for all peace initiatives and its drive to perpetuate its occupation of Arab territory.

He expressed the hope that the delegation will convey to Holland the true situation in the Middle East region.

In the meeting, Mr. Fayed also explained the procedures of Jordan's democratic activity and about the country's return to parliamentary life.

## Fayez chairs third ordinary session of Lower House of Parliament

## New West Bank deputies sworn in

By Elia Z. Nasrallah  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament will meet Sunday to review a reply to the speech from the throne which was endorsed by the Lower House of Parliament Saturday.

The House is then expected to form a committee to accompany the House's Speaker, Ahmad Al Lawzi, in carrying the reply to His Majesty King Hussein. Also on the agenda is a review of the previous sessions and topics to be slated for the next meeting.

The Lower House of Parliament, which held a meeting Saturday under the chairmanship of its Speaker Akef Al Fayed, endorsed a reply to the throne as prepared by an ad hoc committee, and set up a team to accompany Mr. Fayez in carrying the reply to the King.

The meeting, the third held by the Lower House in its current ordinary session, was attended by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat and cabinet members.

At the outset of the meeting, the deputies witnessed the newly elected members take the constitutional oath. They are: Daoud Mohammad Suleiman, Daoud, Mohammad Salem Al Thweib, Ribhi Mustafa, Fayyad Jarrar, Ma'rouf Rabbaa', Ziyad Yunes, and Dr. Musa Abu Ghosh.

The elected members made speeches soon afterwards expressing their appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty King Hussein for his decision to restore parliamentary life to the country, and also thanked the Lower House for electing them as deputies to speak for their constituencies on the West Bank.

In their speeches, the seven members also paid tribute to the Arab population under Israeli occupation rule for their steadfastness and their endeavours in aborting the Zionist enemy's attempts to evict Palestinians from their homeland. They also called for additional efforts on the part of Jordan and the PLO and also for Arab and international moves to end the occupation.

They praised the role of the



Ziyad Yunes, Ma'rouf Rabbaa', Fayyad Jarrar, Musa Abu Ghosh, Ribhi Mustafa, Mohammad Thweib, Daoud Suleiman

Jordanian armed forces and demanded that they be provided with all the necessary military equipment and modern weaponry to enable them to boost their ability to defend the nation.

The visiting six member Dutch parliamentary delegation attended the Lower House's session and heard a welcoming speech by Mr. Fayez.

Following is a profile of the newly elected West Bank deputies:

**Ribhi Mustafa, Bethlehem**

Born in Beitir near Bethlehem in 1930, Mr. Mustafa completed his schooling in Jerusalem in 1945 and later studied at the agricultural college near Toulkarm where he graduated with a diploma in 1947.

Mr. Mustafa worked for several institutions in Jordan and Saudi Arabia and at one time held the post of director of the Arab Cement Factory Company in the West Bank.

Bank and the Agricultural Cooperative Society in Bethlehem.

Mr. Mustafa also worked in the government office in Hebron in 1965 and in 1966 he was appointed district governor in Ramallah, a post which he held until January 1984.

Mr. Mustafa was elected Member of Parliament for the Bethlehem constituency in the 1963 elections.

He is married and has four daughters and three sons.

**Danud Suleiman Danud, Jerusalem**

Born in Jerusalem in 1940, Mr. Danud completed his secondary school education in the city and later travelled to West Germany where he obtained a diploma in contracting management in 1957.

He has worked in the contracting business since 1960 in the West Bank and also on the East Bank.

Mr. Daoud is a well-known businessman in Jordan and most recently he was elected president of the Jordanian Contractors Association.

**Mohammad Al Thweib, Bethlehem**

Born near Bethlehem, Mr. Thweib completed his secondary school education in the city and later obtained a bachelor degree in Arabic literature from the Arab University of Beirut in 1967.

He also obtained a diploma in administration from the University of Jordan in 1983.

The Thweib worked for the Ministry of Education for 23 years and at present lives in Amman.

Mr. Thweib is married and has six children.

**Fayyad Jarrar, Jenin**

Born in the village of Sanour near Jenin in 1944, Mr. Jarrar

completed his secondary school education in Sanour and later worked for the customs office between 1967 and 1983.

Mr. Jarrar now lives in Amman.

**Ma'rouf Rabbaa', Jenin**

Born near Jenin in 1926, Mr. Rabbaa' completed his education in Jenin and worked there in business for 30 years, moving between Jenin, Nablus and Amman.

He served as a member of the Nablus Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of the West Bank Chambers of Commerce, and now holds the post of director-general of a business company in Amman.

Mr. Rabbaa' was elected as a Member of Parliament in the 1963 elections.

**Ziyad Yunes, Toulkarm**

Born in Oaqilya on the occupied West Bank in 1940, Mr. Yunes completed his secondary education in 1958 and then obtained a diploma in Islamic law from Damascus University.

Mr. Yunes worked as a teacher in Jordan, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia for 19 years.

Mr. Yunes was arrested by the Israeli authorities and later released but was banned from leaving the West Bank for one year for his role in sabotaging the work of the Israeli-sponsored Village League in the Toulkarm district.

**Musa Abu Ghosh, Ramallah**

Born in 'Imwas village in the Ramallah district in 1924, Dr. Abu Ghosh completed his education in a local school and then, went to Egypt where he obtained his law degree in 1952.

At present he is a practising private physician in Ramallah and holds the post of chairman of the Islamic Charitable Society in Jerusalem.



Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat (third from left) meets Saturday a delegation of parliamentarians from Holland currently here on a several day visit (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

## Minister details public works policy

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The value of contracts issued by the central government tender department at the Ministry of Public Works reached JD 55 million in 1983. All tenders were granted to local contractors except one tender, which was worth JD 1,650,000, which was granted to a foreign firm, the tender being financed by a loan, Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijm said Saturday.

Speaking at his first press conference since taking office, Dr. Nijm said road construction and maintenance projects last year cost the government JD 40,363,000, the rest being spent on the construction of government buildings, consulting and project design fees.

The Ministry of Public Works is one of the ministries providing services to citizens and contributing to the Jordanian infrastructure through the construction of main roads, secondary roads, rural roads and public service buildings that are vital for the development effort in the Kingdom, Dr. Nijm said.

The Ministry of Public Works will focus on the adoption and implementation of a policy based on a scientific basis to enable it carry out its principal duties of constructing a network of roads and public service buildings to serve the various sectors of the Kingdom," he said.

The ministry is in the process of initiating a comprehensive plan for all types of roads in the Kingdom, he said. The plan will include roads already built, those under construction and roads to

be constructed in the future, in coordination with the various ministries and public institutions, Dr. Nijm said.

Within the next few years, the ministry will implement the construction of 10 main roads connecting different areas in the country from the north to the south and from the east to the west, Dr. Nijm added.

The minister also said that there is a study underway for a new type of road construction known as "bridge highways" which the ministry is currently considering. Such a project, he added, would be financed by the contractors themselves along with other local investors who would recoup their money and thus make a profit by operating a toll system. This system would have the added advantage of easing the financial burden on the government budget.

On the other hand, Dr. Nijm said, the adaptation of this project will not affect roads already constructed or other service roads to be constructed in the near future.

The ministry will also work with a machinery and equipment firm by renting all required machinery and equipment from them for the execution of projects without buying them: a process which has proved to be an unnecessary waste of money in the past.

All projects adopted by the ministry will be executed according to its priorities, and the 1984 budget allocated for the ministry in cooperation with the concerned authorities. JD 16 million has been allocated for the construction and maintenance of roads in the Kingdom and JD 1 million to finalise building projects, he added.

Dr. Nijm told reporters that the

ministry will also be increasing its cooperation with the International Roads Federation in order to benefit from scientific assistance which will reflect positively on the road network. There will also be technical cooperation between the ministry and the Jordan Road Society in matters pertinent to the development of regulations relating to high ways in the country.

Coordination with the Jordanian Concrete Society and the Building Materials Research Centre at the Royal Scientific Society will be needed as well to improve the quality of concrete used in construction projects, he said. There will also be cooperation with the Jordanian Engineers Association to develop the rules of their profession in a way so as to give priority to local consulting engineers offices over foreign ones in ministry projects, the minister added.

Concerning funds allocated for the maintenance of roads for this year, Dr. Nijm said that only JD 2 million had been allocated for that purpose, although it is internationally known that two per cent of the total cost of roads is required for maintenance. The roads in Jordan, Dr. Nijm pointed out, cost about JD 300 million to build.

Commenting on the spontaneous excavation work carried out on the Amman streets without coordination between various public service authorities, Dr. Nijm said that this is directly the responsibility of the Municipality of Amman which should cooperate with the other relevant authorities.

## Laila Sharaf: Women still face long battle

By Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Women have a long battle ahead and several fronts to fight on before ensuring a leading role for themselves in society, Minister of Information Laila Sharaf said here Saturday.

Addressing the opening session of a two-day seminar on the role of the information medium in promoting women's role in development, Mrs. Sharaf said women have to channel their energies through the information medium — the most influential arena in society.

Women, she said, should be allowed to contribute effectively and comprehensively in the country's political, cultural and social life.

Also addressing the opening session was the director of the women's department at the Ministry of Social Development, Mrs. Buthaina Jardaneh, who referred to the importance of the working papers to be submitted to the seminar.

"Information has an enormous potential influence in changing society's image of women from being merely objects of temptation and introducing a totally different image of women as a key element in the building of a modern society," Mrs. Jardaneh said.

The participants in the seminar, which is being organised by the Ministry of Social Development in cooperation with the Princess Rahma Community Centre, will also review several working papers as well as watching a documentary on the activities of women in the centre, which is situated in 'Allan to the west of here.

The participants in the Saturday morning session reviewed a paper presented by Farouk Jarrar on international regulations governing information, and another by Walid Da'is on the role of information in development.

Among Sunday's papers will be one to be submitted by Lima Nabil, a local journalist with AJRa's newspaper, which will also focus on the role of information in promoting Jordanian women's activities in social and economic life.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### U.S. college team meets U of J head

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the American University of Boston Saturday called at the University of Jordan and met its President Abdul Salam Al Majali and other senior officials. They discussed ways of bolstering cultural and scientific cooperation between the two universities.

### Arab dentistry meeting slated for here

AMMAN (Petra) — The third Jordanian conference on dentistry will be held in Amman on April 12 with the participation of a number of dentists from Arab and foreign countries as well as the World Health Organisation (WHO).

### Abdul Jaber visits social security office

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Tayseer Abdul Jaber Saturday called on the Social Security Corporation (SSC) to inform them of an increase in the number of labourers covered by SSC laws, and urged it to put into force a previously declared plan for investment.

## Ajlouni, in Irbid, commits ministry to improve standard of health service

IRBID (Petra) — Health Minister Kamel Ajlouni said here Saturday that his ministry will do whatever it can to improve medical services in its clinics and health centres around the country, and will pave the ground by drawing up programmes for this project.

The minister was speaking during a visit to the Princess Basma Hospital in Irbid where he met doctors and inspected the hospital's various wings.

The minister was accompanied

by his under-secretary and senior Health Ministry officials as well as the director of health in the Irbid Governorate.

He later held a separate meeting with the director of health here and was fully briefed on the health conditions existing in the governorate.

The minister was accompanied

## Lecture to explore latest research on lands of the Queen of Sheba

By Rami G. Khouri  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Possible ancient trading, linguistic and cultural links between south Jordan and the fabled lands of the Queen of Sheba, in modern Yemen, will be among the subjects discussed in a slide lecture here tonight (Sunday) by a distinguished American archaeologist who has worked both in Jordan and Yemen.

Dr. Jim Sauer, president of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) and former director of the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR) in Amman, will give a lecture at 6:30 p.m. tonight at ACOR, entitled "New Archaeological Research near Marib, Yemen".

The ancient kingdoms of the region of Yemen, at the southwestern corner of the Arabian Peninsula, included some of the richest and most advanced cultures of their time, during a period of nearly 2,000 years before and after the advent of Christianity.

Between about 1300 BC and 600 AD, the Sabaeen Kingdom dominated that region, leaving behind traces of enormous architectural works such as the famous Marib dam. Little has been known of the precise ancient chronology of the area, but an ongoing project there headed by ASOR, and in cooperation with ACOR and the Sanaa, North Yemen-based American Institute for Yemeni Studies, has started to unravel the mysteries of that rich ancient culture. The work in Yemen is being financed by the American Foundation for the Study of Man.

**Juba Valley**

Dr. Sauer will talk about the

work being done in the 25-kilometre-long Juba Valley, near the border of North and South Yemen, in the heartland of the old Sabaeen Kingdom that produced the Queen of Sheba and flourished by a combination of sophisticated agriculture and wide-spread trading activity. The Juba Valley, only five kilometres wide, runs between the Yemeni mountains to the east and the Rub Al Khali, or the Empty Quarter desert region of Saudi Arabia, to the east. The valley was a key caravan and trade route in antiquity, through which passed the lucrative incense and spice trade that was one of the pillars of the later commercial importance of Petra, the Nabataean capital in southern Jordan.

The work in the Juba Valley has already identified a major city, many smaller villages, a series of dams and considerable agricultural activity, spanning the period from 1300 BC to 1000 BC.

The area is also the heartland of the south Arabian cultures that are linked with Jordan through linguistics. The Sabaean and Thumudic scripts, for example, that are seen so frequently on rock inscriptions throughout Jordan, may have originated in the area of Yemen. The totally Arab, pre-Islamic cultures of the Arab area also must have exerted considerable influence on northern Arabia and the region of modern Jordan because of the strong trade links in antiquity.

In his lecture tonight, Dr. Sauer will discuss the findings of the survey and test excavations that have been done to date in the Juba Valley, and will show slides of some of the most interesting aspects of the work to date. He will also answer questions from the audience.

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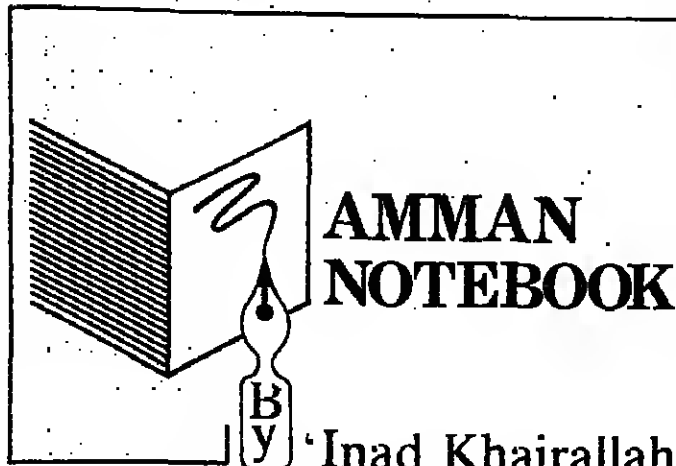
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## AMMAN NOTEBOOK

Inad Khairallah

THE OTHER DAY I was trying to get the exact arrival time of a flight from the Gulf and I never thought it would be a problem to obtain it from the airport. The airport office of the airline would know better than the city people. I reckoned. I was supposed to pick up a friend of mine who was arriving on the flight and drop him at a hotel but more important than the picking up process was an opportunity to talk with him.

So, there I was, quite confidently dialling 1853251, the number I picked up from the newspaper. First time a recorded female voice answered me that all the lines of the exchange I was dialling were engaged and "would you try again please." Okay, I did, and the same voice answered me again. I decided to give myself some rest and try after 10 minutes. When after that I dialled and got the same answer. I thought it was time I did some research and came up with an alternate number.

I called '12' and the recorded

voice which answered puzzled me. For a moment I thought it was telling me all the lines were engaged in that exchange also, but then I realised it was telling me to hold on and my inquiry would be answered when my turn came. So, I held on, and the recorded answer went on and on until I started repeating it myself. It was no wonder that I could not stop myself repeating the first phrase of the answer to the eventual operator who came on the line. But she corrected me that she was the "inquiries" section and I was the caller and asked me which number I wanted. Well, I would like the number of the airport. I told her. Without any pause she said: "1853251." Very patiently I told her I tried this several times and all the lines were engaged in that exchange and would she be kind enough to give me an alternate number.

After a pause she gave me an alternate number, 185 21011. I thanked her and with renewed vigour tackled the telephone again

## It takes an arriving friend to drive you insane

with the new number. No luck. I was getting a busy tone. Several attempts later I got a free line and I could hear the ringing at the other end. But nobody picked up the phone and after exactly one minute the ringing automatically changed into a busy signal.

I tried again and this time proved myself lucky because someone answered. I asked for the airline's office and was told to ring 18531711. I was getting somewhere. I thought, and tried the new number. After several attempts and about a quarter of an hour I got through and was asked to ring 18532111. This number turned out to be non-existent and I went back to 18531711. I told the operator the number he gave me was wrong and would he give me another "please." He advised me to try 1853141 and I ended up with the airport cargo office operator.

I told him I was not expecting my friend to arrive in a cargo plane, but that he would be kind enough to give me the information section. He made some sympathetic sounds and regretted his not having the number.

So, I was back again where I started. I thought it was one of those bad days, but since the matter was of urgent importance, considering that my friend was arriving the same afternoon, I was compelled to try again.

I was in the process of dialling the first number again when a tri-

end of mine walked into my office. I told him to sit down and went ahead with my dialling. Apparently he guessed from the miserable expression on my face that I was trying to call the airport and told me: "If you are trying to get the airport, better have your breakfast and lunch together, so that you do not have to go out." I asked him why.

"They would give you 20 different numbers and everytime you would simply get nowhere," was his reply. I was relieved to note that my miserable experience was not unique and felt compelled to say so.

He waved my thanks aside and inquired whether I was planning to go somewhere outside the country. No such luck. I told him, I was expecting my friend to arrive the same afternoon and all I was interested in was to know what the expected time of arrival was. He asked me which flight and I told him. "It scheduled time is 14.40 but I wouldn't bet on it," he said. I told him he was telling me nothing new, this information was available from the newspaper and as to not banking on it, the newspaper itself said its information had better be verified.

"Here, let me give it a try," my friend said, and took the phone from me. He dialled a number and after a pause gave me the information. I could hear the ringing at the other end and someone answered after two or three rings.

I asked for "Information" and was rewarded with "wait a moment please." After a slight delay "Information" came on the line and I asked him what time so and so flight was coming on that day. "Four in the evening," I got the answer and inquired again whether the information was reliable. I was assured that it was.

I hung up and asked my friend to give me the number he dialled so that I could jot it down for future reference. "It is a secret," he said. "It would cost you a lunch for the information."

I rang for the office boy and asked him to get a "halaf" sandwich. To my puzzled friend I said the sandwich was the "lunch," and since I used to survive on it also, he should not complain. With great reluctance, my friend parted with the number and it turned out to be 1853251, the first number I had started with. I was sorry I bothered a sandwich to my friend for this number and told him so. He said I was trying and trying to get the number and it was his "magic fingers" which did the trick, so he deserved more than sandwich.

After the sandwich and a cup of coffee and a little small talk, my friend was about to leave when I remembered to ask him what he came to the office for. He told me to "never mind," for all he wanted was to borrow my car for the afternoon. But since I was going to the airport, he could not very well borrow it, could he? I said no, he

could not. Even otherwise, I told him, I did not believe in lending three things in life: My car, my camera and my girlfriend, and in that order. My friend looked disappointed and left with a curt "bye."

I wanted to doublecheck the timing of the flight so I called the airline's city office. They confirmed the flight was expected at four in the afternoon. I had a couple of hours before going to the airport so I got busy with my work. Around 3.00 I was free.

I thought I should check again whether the flight was further delayed, as I did not like to waste time hanging around the airport to see people leaving for places like London, Rome, New York and others and hurt myself by thinking how lucky they were. So, I called the city office and this time a different voice told me the flight was supposed to have arrived at its actual scheduled time.

How was it possible, I asked him, when I was told a couple of hours earlier the plane was coming in at four? Just because someone told me the plane was coming in at four, the airlines did not believe in delaying the arrival to confirm it, he replied. I guessed it was no use talking to him and hung up. I tried the airport again and somehow got through airline office at the airport. I was lucky to have someone answer it and before I could ask any questions he told me he was just a cleaner doing his job at the

airlines office and there was no-one around. I asked him where everyone was. It seemed that one of the airlines' planes had arrived and everybody was busy outside the office, he said.

I thanked him and hung up. My watch showed 3.10. I did a fast calculation and decided that if I did some fancy driving in the airport I would be able to catch my friend coming out. But since my car was not suitable for such a feat I decided to borrow myself a car from the company fleet. After collecting the keys for the company car a thought struck me like lightning. I did not have enough money on me. So I took a loan from a colleague of 20 dinars lest a speed-radar car catch me speeding and ask for a fine.

I rushed down the stairs, got into the car and shot out from the curb to the middle of the road. I chose to ignore the angry blares from other cars and drove on. A look at the gas gauge made grimace at the thought of spending another two minutes and three dinars at a petrol station.

The gas filling done with, I entered the airport highway at Seventh Circle and was doing 100 kilometres in another two minutes. I was sure there would not be any police radar cars before the bridge just before reaching the airport.

Although it was difficult to keep an eye out for police radars as well as airport taxis in the hope that my friend might have changed his

mind and decided against waiting for me, I reached the airport without any problems other than a slight disappointment that I could not offer a lift to some of those unfortunate people jerking their thumbs at passing cars. But it would have not been exactly easy for me to stop as my speedometer needle hovered over 130-140 kilometre range. (A tip to potential drivers: it takes exactly 18 minutes from Seventh Circle to the airport at 120 kilometres, but don't do it.)

I reached the airport, parked the car in a hurry and ran to the arrival terminal. I could see a lot of passengers coming out and I asked one of them whether the flight I was looking for had arrived. He said he did not know as he was coming from somewhere in Europe.

I approached the information desk and inquired whether the flight had arrived. Yes, it had. I tried to find out whether my friend was still inside although the chances were slim. There was nobody here from the Gulf flight, I was told.

I was disappointed and decided to go back to the office in the van hope my friend would call me there. So, I drove back and was back in the office in about half an hour. I entered the office to the chatter of the telex machine. I went over to the machine and it was a message from my friend: "Sorry I could not make today's flight. I'll be arriving same flight, same time tomorrow."

## Revival of mural painting in China

By Zhang Weimin

PEKING — Mural painting, once one of the glories of ancient Chinese culture, is enjoying a renaissance after a century of decline.

Over the last three years, hundreds of works have been produced for hotels and other institutions. The largest, measuring six metres by 64 metres, is in the lounge of the Guangzhou Commodity Fair.

Yuan Yunfu, head of the Mural Department of the Institute of Arts and Crafts, said mural painting initially spread as Buddhist temples proliferated throughout China. However, he said, the current revival is promoted by the tourist boom as a result of China's open-door policies.

With millions of foreigners coming to visit China, 73 new hotels have been built since 1978 and many existing ones are undergoing renovation. "This keeps orders coming to us one after another. The dreams we have dreamed for decades have come true at long last," Yuan said.

Murals were first painted in China over 3,000 years ago, when they were used to decorate im-

perial courts or coffin chambers. The art reached its peak during the Tang Dynasty (618-907), when murals graced more than 40,000 Buddhist temples. The world-famous Dunhuang murals in Gansu province, northwest China, cover 120,000 square metres. Dozens of other ancient murals in temples or coffin chambers are also now open to tourists.

Mural painting withered following the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Many ancient works in wooden temples decayed, or were destroyed in constant wars.

In addition, fewer and fewer artists painted murals when a scholarly style of painting that emphasized the rendering of brush and ink became popular and murals were considered a time-consuming chore for craftsmen.

After the founding of the new China in 1949, artists tried to revive the mural tradition, but few institutions commissioned their works because of shortages of funds. Their efforts seldom progressed beyond sketches or models.

The new boom began in 1979 when 40 mural painters and craftsmen, led by Zhang Ding, pre-

sident of the Institute of Arts and Crafts, created 13 large-size murals for the newly-constructed Peking International Airport terminal. The works were completed in ten months.

The largest at the airport terminal, 27 by 3.4 metres, by Yuan Yunsheng, is "The Song of Life." It depicts a hundred men and women of the Dai nationality in southwest China splashing water on each other, playing, dancing and bathing during a traditional festival.

Though some new works do use Western abstract styles, Chinese mural painters seem more enthusiastic about exploring ancient styles and themes. A typical work is "The Light of Wisdom" by Yuan Yunfu in Beijing's Yanjing Hotel. It shows 25 outstanding art treasures from various dynasties, including warrior figures from the Emperor Qinshihuang's tomb; musical bells from the Warring Period (475-221 B.C.) and the Dunhuang Buddhist Frescos.

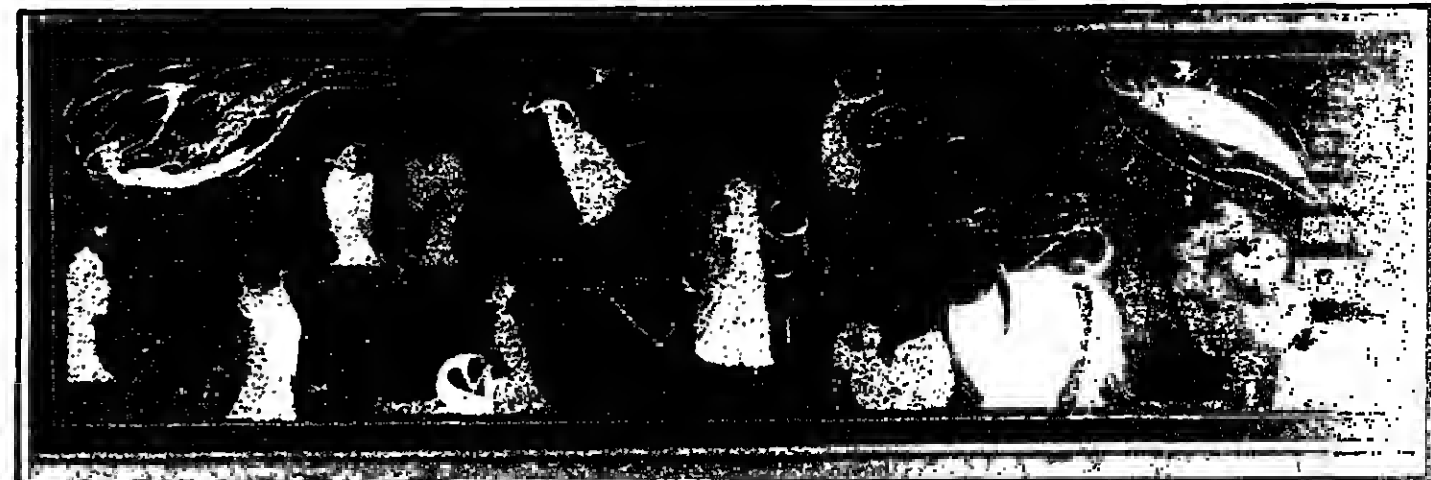
Since most new murals are displayed in hotel restaurants or lounges, related themes like landscapes, legendary episodes or historical tales are usually selected

by commissioners. So often are these motifs presented that artists are now concerned that the themes have been overused.

Despite the standstill in mural painting during the past hundred years, Chinese traditional handicraft techniques and materials have developed rapidly, especially since 1949. So when mural painting began to revive, a wide-range of sources were available.

Glazed tiles are now employed to combine traditional Chinese ceramics with the art of painting. Each hand-painted tile helps form an overall design resembling western mosaics, which are made by inlaying pieces of coloured material to form pictures or patterns. But the firing of glazed tile is more challenging. The painted glaze enters the kiln in one colour and changes its hue only during the process of firing. If the firing is not done correctly, the finished tile will be difficult to match with the rest of the mural.

Early this year artist Fan Zeng, in collaboration with the Peking Handicraft Factory, completed ceramic murals of 18 celebrated Buddhist monks. The murals are now on permanent display in the



"The Story of the White Snake", a mural painting at the Peking International Airport, 1200 by 700 centimetres

Guangjiao Temple at Nantong, in Jiangsu province. A breakthrough embodied in these works is their adoption of traditional Chinese painting into ceramics. On a snow-white background of glazed tiles, 2.2 by 1.3 metres, is rendered a figure in black. Though the black is glazed, it appears to have been done with brush and ink in the traditional Chinese painting style.

Western acrylics are also used in some of the new works, but Chinese artists prefer to blend the

new medium with traditional mineral pigments to give their works a distinctive flavour. In his "Light of Wisdom," Yuan Yunfu used a mixture of acrylics, powdered gold and silver, a traditional Chinese pigment often used in ancient murals. The lifelike gives a stronger line, a major characteristic of Chinese painting.

An exhibition of murals created by teachers at the Central Academy of Fine Arts held last October demonstrated an even wider range of media, some on trial.

They included wax-dyeing on wood, and lacquers.

While creating new works, Chinese artists are also rescuing ancient murals facing destruction through erosion and negligence. In Tibet, ancient religious frescoes have been restored although some artists felt the action devalued the murals.

Travelling to remote mountainous areas, artists in Yunnan, Xinjiang and Tibet have made over 500 reproductions of ancient

murals in temples or grottoes for display in Peking and other cities. Publications on ancient murals are also on the increase, including the latest, a multi-volume collection of murals in Shanxi province.

As impressive as the current revival is, most of the new works are for indoor display. Outdoor murals are few. Li Linshu, a teacher at the Central Academy of Fine Arts, said, "A further flourishing depends on more investment from more public institutions." — China Features.

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Jordan's Yousef Soufwan (right) on his way to beating Sri Lanka's Ramzie in the squash team event Saturday.

## Zaman claims Asian squash title

By Anne Counsell  
Special to the Jordan Times

**AMMAN —** World number 2, Qamar Zaman from Pakistan won the Second Asian Squash Championship singles title when he beat Maqsood Ahmed, world number 6 also from Pakistan 9-4, 9-2, 9-1 in the final held at Sports City here Saturday.

Despite the superior skill of Zaman, Maqsood put up an excellent performance giving the crowd the opportunity to watch long and exciting rallies illustrating the techniques and skill of world championship squash. Reaching seemingly impossible heights, Maqsood fiercely contested each point in the first set and managed to maintain the score at 4-6 for 8 services before dropping 3 successive points and losing the first set 9-4.

Zaman had the upper-hand throughout the second set although play was still hard and fast. The fierce competition between the players resulted in the breakage of Zaman's racket and an instruction from the referee that Zaman clear the way for his opponent following several "stroke" and "let" balls.

After a good start by Maqsood Ahmed, with fierce play at the sixth point, he again lost several points in succession to lose the second set 9-2.

By the third set, the outcome was inevitable, and Zaman took a commanding lead, maintained it easily and won the final set 9-1 to win the individual tournament. Following the match Zaman was presented with a gift from His Highness Crown Prince Hassan by Prince Ra'd.

The team championships also started Saturday with Jordan playing well and beating the Sri Lankan team 3-1. Jordan's Yousef Soufwan beat Ramzie of Sri Lanka 4-2, 9-6, 9-1. Hamid Sa'ed of Jordan defeated Gunge of Sri Lanka 9-1, 9-1, 1-9, 9-1 and Jordan's Nidal Qasbi also won his match with a 9-7, 9-2, 7-4, 9-3.

The manager of the Jordanian team, Mr. Ibrahim Hadid, told the Jordan Times that he was very pleased with the performance of the Jordanian team in the championships. He said that they have a good chance of being placed 2nd or 3rd in the team events and thereby proving themselves on the international squash circuit.

Mr. Hadid said that considering Jordan is a relative newcomer to squash, the team is playing well and was encouraged to participate in the championship despite their initial nervousness.

Mr. Hamid added that Jordan's participation in the tournament has given them an excellent incentive to further improve their standard in the next few years. Also in the team events on Saturday Pakistan beat all their Bahraini opponents 3-1. World Champion Jahanji Khan played in the team event and Pakistan are favourites to win the team championship.

The team matches for today (Sunday) are Sri Lanka v Malaysia at 4.30 a.m., Singapore v Pakistan at 4.30 p.m., Sri Lanka v India at 4.30 p.m. and Jordan v Bahrain at 6.30 p.m. All matches will be held at the Sports City.

## Australia hits 209 for 8 in world cricket

**MELBOURNE (R) —** Pakistan leg-spinner Abdul Qadir took five wickets, as he bowled Australia's batsmen in a World Series Cricket Cup match Saturday.

Qadir took two wickets in two balls at one stage as his flight and spin helped check a fast start by Australia, whose innings closed at 209 for eight wickets in the 51-over match.

His first victim was opener Kepler Wessels, who was caught by Imran Khan for 86 after giving Australia a brisk start in partnership with Greg Ritchie.

Qadir took his five wickets for 53 runs off 10 overs, snaring David Hookes (37) and Rodney Hogg (10) in successive balls to make the total 178 for eight.

He was denied the hat-trick when John Maguire, deliberately

## United keeps up the pressure on Liverpool

**LONDON (R) —** Manchester United clung tenaciously to Liverpool's shirt-tails with a fighting 3-2 home win over Southampton Saturday to keep the English Soccer Championship race wide open.

Having watched Liverpool extend their lead at the top to five points with a 3-1 win at Aston Villa Friday night, United knew they could not afford to slip up against a Southampton side which arrived at Old Trafford unbeaten in their last eight games.

And Southampton made United fight all the way in a torrid and controversial first division encounter which was eventually decided by Arnold Muhren's 60th minute winner.

The result took United onto the 46-point mark, two behind Liverpool and three ahead of third-placed West Ham, who beat visiting West Bromwich 1-0.

Southampton, with the best defensive record in the first division, showed they also knew a thing or two about attack when they took the lead through Steve Moran in the third minute.

The United defence stood back to admire Mark Dennis' cross from the right and Moran moved in smartly to glance a beautiful header past goalkeeper Gary Bailey.

It took United 15 minutes to recover from the shock and they equalised in their first concerned attack when Ray Wilkins and Muhren set up an opening for England captain Bryan Robson, who swept the ball high into the

net from the edge of the box. Muhren, a constant menace to Southampton in midfield, was the architect again in the 30th minute when Frank Stapleton scored his first goal in 111 games by heading home the Dutchman's pinpoint cross from the left.

Six minutes later Southampton equalised in controversial circumstances when Moran's thunderous left-footer rebounded off the net stanchion and the referee had to consult a linesman before awarding the goal.

The United players appeared to accept the decision but assistant manager Mick Brown became involved in a furious exchange of words with the Southampton bench before Ron Atkinson stepped in to defuse the situation.

Referee Alan Seville also cautioned six players but that was due more to the icy surface than any intended malice.

Another Dutchman, Muhren's former Ipswich team-mate Frans Thijssen, kept Brian Clough's new-look Nottingham Forest in the title hunt when he put his team on the road to a 3-1 home win over Norwich by opening the scoring after five minutes.

Forest then wrapped up a comfortable victory with further goals from Steve Hodge and Viv Anderson in the 16th and 29th minutes to remain one point behind West Ham in fourth place.

With Notts County, Stoke and Wolverhampton already hot favourites for the big drop into division two next season, the battle

for the three promotion places took another twist when Chelsea beat Sheffield Wednesday 3-2 in a top-of-the-table clash at Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea looked to be heading for a comfortable victory when they led 3-0 with nine minutes remaining before Wednesday, who meet Liverpool in a League Cup quarter-final replay next week, staged a late recovery in a thrilling climax.

The Londoners' victory took them above Wednesday on goal difference with Manchester City, despite losing 2-1 at Blackburn, retaining third place.

Glasgow Rangers beat both the Scottish winter and visiting St. Johnstone to continue their recent revival in the Premier League.

Ibrox Stadium's underground heating system allowed Rangers to stage the only Premier League game of the day and they celebrated with a 2-0 win, Sandy Clarke and Robert Russell scoring in the first-half.

After an atrocious start to the season, which resulted in the resignation of manager John Greig, Rangers are now well placed to clinch a UEFA Cup spot next season under new boss Jock Wallace.

Saturday's win left them in fourth place, though out of the championship running. European Cup-Winners' Cup holders Aberdeen are well out in front with 33 points. Four ahead of Glasgow Celtic and seven in front of defending champions Dundee United.

## Klammer leads Austrian downhill sweep

**KITZBUHEL, Austria (R) —** Franz Klammer led an Austrian sweep of the top places in the world's toughest downhill race, the 'Streif' on Hahnenkamm, here Saturday.

It was his fourth victory on this piste in a 11-year career in World Cup racing and at 31 he became the second oldest competitor to win the Hahnenkamm. His compatriot Karl Schranz won here in 1972 at the age of 33.

Klammer sped down the awesome 3,500 metres course with a drop of 860 metres in two minutes 02.82 seconds ahead of Erwin

Resch, who clocked 2:03.39, and Anton Steiner, third in 2:03.43. It was a brilliant comeback for Klammer, last year's World Cup downhill champion, who has had a disappointing season so far this year with only one second place to his credit — in Laax, Switzerland, earlier this month.

"This is a great day for me," said a smiling Klammer, "I was depressed with my poor running this season, but this morning I had the feeling I could make it."

Klammer came down the course in the same aggressive style that has made him a legend and earned

him the nickname of the 'Klammer Express'.

In Verbier, Switzerland Maria Walliser of Switzerland won a women's World Ski Cup downhill in difficult conditions which caused upsets among other specialists here on Saturday.

Walliser's second World Cup win of the season after victory in Val d'Isere last month came in one minute 39.84 seconds, 11.15 seconds ahead of American Holly Beth Flanders. Olga Charvatova of Czechoslovakia was third in 1:40.76.

Forty centimetres of snow fell on the Medran slope here over the last two days and visibility was so bad Friday the race was postponed until Saturday. The snow was still especially thick up towards the start.

## Kratochvilova, Gross honoured

**DORTMUND, West Germany (R) —** West German swimmer Michael Gross and Czechoslovak athlete Jarmila Kratochvilova were named as European Sportsman and Sportswoman of 1983 by European sports journalists Saturday.

Gross, 19, won four gold medals and was involved in three world records at the European Swimming Championship in Rome last August.

Kratochvilova won the 400 and 800 metres titles at the first World Athletics Championships in Helsinki the same month. She also set world records at both distances during the year.

## Superbowl fever takes hold across United States

**TAMPA, Florida (R) —** For approximately three and a half hours on Sunday, more than 100 million Americans will stop what they are doing to watch the Washington Redskins and Los Angeles Raiders battle it out for the National Football League (NFL) Championship.

Though the rest of the world will take little more than a passing interest, gridiron football's Superbowl is the biggest single sporting event in the U.S. and its unique magic never fails to grip the entire nation.

Here in Tampa, where the game will take place for the first time, thousands of fans from the two cities have converged to watch the spectacle.

All over the city there are reminders that "Super Sunday" is near. The streets are adorned with Superbowl banners, souvenirs are sold everywhere and sports fans circulate throughout Tampa wearing Redskins or Raider hats.

The social life of the city has also been altered. Restaurants and bars have been jammed all week, and a series of elegant parties have been scheduled. One of the week's highlights is a concert by Frank Sinatra on Sunday.

For American football fans it is a dream match between two of the league's most colourful outfits.

Washington, the reigning champions who are attempting to become only the fourth team to retain the trophy, epitomise the American work ethic.

Their key offensive weapon is the plodding, powerful, almost machine-like John Riggins. What the 34-year-old running back lacks in speed and finesse, he more than makes up in strength.

Last year, when the Redskins beat Miami 27-17 in Superbowl XVII, Riggins was voted Man of the Match.

The Raiders on the other hand, with their silver and black uniforms, are perennially cast as the league's most villainous team. At one time, while they were based in Oakland, the Raiders had a defensive player (Jack Tatum, nicknamed 'the Assassin'). And a rival coach once accused the team of having "a criminal element."

Their rebellious nature is due in part to owner Al Davis, a former Raider coach, who fought league officials in a three-year federal court battle in order to move the team from Oakland to Los Angeles. Davis, who beat Los Angeles 37-35 during the regular season, are slight favourites, although President Reagan, an avid football fan, skirted the issue when asked for a prediction.

"A menagerie of misfits," is how Raiders' Todd Christensen describes his team, which includes a number of players who have been released by rival outfits and given a second chance by the Raiders.

The colourful nature of the two teams has led to a war of words between the squads.

Raiders' burly defensive star Lyle Alzado, a player with a reputation for rough play, has threatened to "tear Riggins' head off". That merely prompted Riggins to reply: "I hope he will at least be gentleman enough to hand it back to me."

Washington, who beat Los Angeles 37-35 during the regular season, are slight favourites, although President Reagan, an avid football fan, skirted the issue when asked for a prediction.

"Since both teams playing are from my current hometowns, and since none of the democrats who are interested in this job have declared their preference, I see no reason to be recklessly courageous. May the best team win," he said.

Before taking up temporary residency in Washington three years ago, Reagan lived in Los Angeles.

## Brazilian soccer failing to pull in the crowds

By Sergio Leitao  
Reuters

**RIO DE JANEIRO —** Brazilian football league attendance had dropped by a third in 15 years as fans fail to find the old magic in the current crop of players, clubs report.

Players, sportswriters and the remaining diehard fans increasingly lament that the sparkle has gone out of what used to be the most feverishly followed sport in Brazil.

Most agree that Brazilian football lost much of its charisma along with its older stars.

The triumphs of such players as Pele, Garrincha, Nilton Santos, Zito, Clodoaldo, Gerson, Rivellino, Tostao and Carlos Alberto are fading memories against which today's performances are sadly compared.

These were the heroes who projected Brazil to World Cup triumph in 1958, 1962 and 1970. Disappointed fans say the present crop of players are pale imitations.

Sportswriters have come up with a host of reasons for falling gates. They quote fans as saying they lost interest when top stars like Falcão, Zico and Cerezo were sold to Italian clubs.

Another reason given is the inflation-wracked economy, which has made football an unaffordable luxury for some fans. A related fear is that the little money they do have might be stolen in the crush of the stands.

Crowd violence is also cited, and then there is television. Why trek to the game when you can sit in comfort at home with a beer and get a better view?

Further erosion of football sup-

port has been blamed on the growing popularity of other sports such as volleyball, which is played on beaches and in parks with an enthusiasm that transcends age and gender. Company teams pull huge crowds and are regularly televised.

"I've quit going to the Maracana (Rio's famous stadium) ever since Zico was sold to Italy's Udinese," said 12-year-old former fan Nelson Batista. "Without him what's the point of watching the game?"

Not everyone shares his gloom. Former national squad coach Joao Saldanha says Brazilian football is as entertaining as ever.

"The recent encounter between Grêmio and Hamburg in the World Cup final in Tokyo was the best evidence for my optimism," he said.

"We checked out those who jump to hasty conclusions that

we're losing the old magic touch just because we haven't won many international tournaments in recent years."

Brazil's last big international victory was in 1976 when they took the United States International Ammiversary tourney, defeating the U.S. national squad as well as those of major football nations Italy and England.

Renato Prado, sports editor of Brazil's leading newspaper O Globo, also has high hopes for the future.

"When we can find such talents as Giovanni, Bebeto, Gilmar and Dunga (from Brazil's 1982 world youth winning squad) you can never say we've lost our sparkle. "Only God knows how Italy beat us in Spain," he said. "He had a great team — Italy were merely lucky. You can measure that by their post-World Cup performances."

## Lotus continues to set best Formula One times

**RIO DE JANEIRO (R) —** British driver Nigel Mansell, in a Lotus, set the fastest time on the fifth day of Formula One tests at the Jacarepagua track here Friday.

His best lap of one minute 30.38 seconds was the fastest this week and maintained the Lotus team's position as the quickest on every test day.

Mansell beat the previous best by team-mate Elio de Angelis of Italy who rounded the 3.126-mile (5.031-km) circuit in one minute 30.65 seconds on his last day of testing on Wednesday.

Mansell has also set Thursday's best time of one minute 31.70 seconds.

Italian Michele Alboreto was second-fastest Friday with one minute 31.72 Alboreto, driving a Ferrari, has clocked the second-best time on each of the last four days.

Britain's Derek Warwick put up Friday's third best time of one minute 31.77 seconds in a Ferrari. The trials which end Saturday are officially to try out tyres for the forthcoming Grand Prix season which opens here on March 25.

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## General Motors may buy Jaguar, newspaper says

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